ESSONS

FOR

CHILDREN

FROM

HREE TO FOUR YEARS OLD.

LONDON:

CHURCH YARD. 1788.

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LESSONS

FOR CHILDREN,

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ROM THREE TO FOUR YEARS OLD

THARLES, here are more stories for you,--tories about good boys, and
B 2 naughty

naughty boys, and filly boys; t for you know what it is to be good now. And there is a flor about two foolish Cocks that were always quarrelling, which is very naughty. You do not st quarrel? No. I am glad of it; but if you see any little ur boys that quarrel you may tel an

the

them the story of the Two Cocks. This is it:

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There was once a Hen who lived in a farm-yard, and she had a large brood of chickens. the took a great deal of care of them, and gathered them under her wings every night, te and fed them, and nursed them

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very well: and they were all very good, except two Cocks, that were always quarrelling with one another. They were hardly out of the shell before they began to peck at each other; and when they grew bigger they fought till they were all bloody. If one picked 11

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up a barley-corn the other always wanted to have it. They never looked pretty, because their feathers were pulled off in fighting till they were quite bare; and they picked at one another's eyes till they were both almost blind. The old Hen very often told them B4 how

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how naughty it was to quarrel fo; but they did not mind

So one day these two Cocks had been fighting, as they always did; and the biggeff ac Cock, whose name was Chanticleer, beat the other, and crowed over him, and drow him

rel him quite out of the yard. Ind The Cock that had been beat lunk away and hid himself; ks or he was vexed he had been al conquered, and he wanted effedly to be revenged; but he n. id not know how to manage nd, for he was not strong we nough himself. So, after B 5 thinking m

thinking a great deal, he went to an old fly Fox that lived near, and faid to him Fox, if you will come with me I will shew you when there is a large fat Cock in a farm-yard, and you may cat him up if you will. Theh Fox was very glad, for he was hung

he nungry enough; and he faid, Yes, I will come with all my heart, and I will not eave a feather of him. So they went together, and the Cock shewed Reynard the way into the farm-yard; and Thethere was poor Chanticleer alleep upon the perch. And W B 6 gi

the Fox feized him by the neck, and ate him up; and a the other Cock stood by and crowed for joy. But when the Fox had done, he faid, Chanticleer was very good, but I have not had enough; and fo he flew upon the other w Cock,

Cock, and ate him up too in nd a moment.

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I will tell you a ftory.

There was a little boy whose name was Harry; and er his papa and mamma sent him

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him to school. Now Harry was a clever fellow, and loved his book; and he got to be first in his class. So his mamma got up one morning very early and called I Betty the maid, and faid, Betty, I think we must make a cake for Harry, for he has

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has learned his book very well. And Betty faid, Yes, with all my heart. So they made a nice cake. It was very large, and stuffed full of plums and fweetmeats, orange and citron; and it was iced all over with fugar: it was white and fmooth on the

the top like fnow. So this af cake was fent to the school. at When little Harry faw it no he was very glad, and jumped about for joy, and he ai hardly stayed for a knife to cut his a piece, but gnawed it like a t little dog. So he ate till the bell rang for school, and after

his after school he ate again, and ollete till he went to bed; it hay, his bed-fellow told me p- hat he laid his cake under he his pillow, and fat up in the tut eight to eat some. So he a te till it was all gone.he But presently after this little nd oy was very fick and ill, ter and

and every body faid, I wone der what is the matter with Harry—he used to be for ar brisk, and play about more d nimbly than any of the boys; tto and now he looks pale and t is very ill. And somebod re faid, Harry has had a rid ou cake, and eat it all up ver foor

14 on, and that has made him Н . So they fent for Dr. fo amomile, and he gave him do not know how much tter stuff. Poor Harry did not like it at all, but he was rced to take it, or else he ould have died, you know, c 21 at last he got well again, 011 but

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but his mamma faid a would fend him no more cakes.

Now there was another boy, who was one of Harry school-fellows: his name was Peter; the boys used to call him Peter Careful. And Peter had written his mamma a very

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very neat pretty letter--ere was not one blot in all. So his mamma fent m a cake. Now Peter ought with himself, I will ot make myself sick with is good cake, as filly Harry id; I will keep it a great. hile. So he took the cake, and

and tugged it up stairs. on was very heavy: he coulent hardly carry it. And linto locked it up in his box, ar on once a day he crept slily tory stairs, and ate a very litt aft piece, and then locked het box again. So he kept feveral weeks, and it was no

one, for it was very large; ut, behold! the mice got u nto his box and nibbled ome. And the cake grew ry and mouldy, and at aft was good for nothing tt h t all. So he was obliged o throw it away, and it neved him to the very heart, n and

and no body was forry for car him.

Well; there was another conditions little boy at the same school whose name was Billy. And I one day his mamma sent his one day his mamma sent his one day, and he love his dearly, and he loved he dearly. So when the cak

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ame, Billy faid to his schoolellows I have got a cake, ome let us go and eat it. they came about him like parcel of bees; and Billy ook a flice of cake himself, in nd then gave a piece to one, nd a piece to another, and he piece to another, till it was

C almost

almost gone. Then Billy put w the rest by, and said, I will eat it to-morrow. So he so went to play, and the boy an all played together very mer an rily. But prefently after a if old blind Fiddler came into the court: he had a long off white beard; and, because he for

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was blind, he had a little dog in a string to lead him. So he came into the court, and fat down upon a stone, and faid, My pretty lads, and if you will, I will play you nte a tune. And they all left on off their sport, and came and haltood round him. Wa C 2 Billy

Billy faw that while he play. ed the tears ran down his cheeks. And Billy faid, Old man, why do you cry? And the old man faid, Because! am very hungry---I have no body to give me any din ners or fuppers--- I have no thing in the world but the

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little dog; and I cannot work. If I could work I would. Then Billy went without faying a word, and fetched the rest of his cake which he had intended to have eaten another day, and he faid, Here, old man! here

is some cake for you. The

C 3 old

old man faid, Where is it? for I am blind, I cannot fee it. So Billy put it into his hat. And the Fiddler thanked him, and Billy was more T glad than if he had eaten ten ha cakes.

Pray which do you love

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best? do you love Harry, or Peter, or Billy best?

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Little boy, come to me.

Tell me how far from home have you been in your life?

I think I should like to go a great long way with you,

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and fee what we could fee: th for there are a great many co places in the world besides st home. Bring your hat, in Good-bye, Papa. Farewell, th Billy, and Harry, and every w body. We are going a great be way off. And we shall go w down the lane, and through w y

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the church-yard, and by the corner house, and over the stile, till we have got quite t, into the fields. How pretty l, the fields will look! for it y will be fummer days again at before we go. And there go will be yellow flowers, and sh white flowers, and grafs,

C 5

and trees, and hedges; and the grashoppers will chirp, chirp, under our feet. Do not try to catch them; it will only hinder us, and we have a great way to go.

Pray what are those pretty creatures that look fo meek and good-natured, and have

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ją foft thick white wool upon Photheir backs, like a great coat, and make a noise like the villalittle baby when it cries? Those are sheep and lambs. And what are those creatures with horns, that are bigger han the sheep? Some of

hem are black, and some fof

C 6

red: they make a loud noise, but they do not look as if a they would hurt any body. b Those are cows that give the milk. Stroke them. Poor V cows! Stand still and look S back. Now we cannot fee ag papa's house at all; and we ba can see only the top of the churd

se, church steeple. Let us go if a little farther. Now look ly, back. Now we cannot fee ive the church at all. Farewell! of We are going a great way. ok Shall we ever come back fee again? Yes, we shall come we back again; but we must the go

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go on now. Come, make t

What is that tall thing I that has four great arms which move very fast? I believe if I was near it they would strike me down. It is a Wind-mill. Those arms

are the sails. The wind

turns

ke turns them round. And what is a wind-mill for? It is to grind corn. You ms could have no bread if the I corn were not ground. Well, but here is a river: how shall It we do to get over it? Why ms do not you see how those nd ducks do? they swim over.

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But I cannot swim. Then you must learn to swim I believe: it is too wide to jump over. O here is a Bridge! Somebody has made in a bridge for us quite over the river. That somebody was very good, for I do no v know what we should have more lone without it; and he was more clever too. I wonder to low he made it. I am fure could not make fuch a additional.

Well, we must go on, on, od, n; and we shall see more no vers, and more sields, and navowns bigger than our town a great

a great deal---large towns and fine churches, streets and people----more than there a is at the fair. And we shall h have a great many high hill ve to climb. I believe I mulino get fomebody to carry there little boy up those high hill ar And fometimes we shall go throug

hrough dusty fandy roads; and fometimes through green er anes, where we shall hear al the birds fing. Sometimes ill ve shall go over wide comnul nons, where we shall see no therees, nor any house; and ill arge heaths, where there hardly any grafs---only ug

fome purple flowers, and a in few black nosed little sheep. Ha! did you fee that pretty brown creature that ran across the path? Here is another: and look! there is another an there are a great many. The are Rabbits. They live here and make themselves house

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in the ground. This is a rabbit-warren.

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Now we are come amongst a great many trees---more trees than there are in the orchard by a great many; and taller trees. There is pak, and ash, and elm. This is a Wood. What great

boughs

boughs the trees have! like thick arms. The fun cannot shine amongst the trees they are fo thick. Look there is a squirrel! jumping from one tree to another. He is very nimble. What a pret ty tail he has!

Well

ike Well; when we have one on a great many days, anhrough a great many fields ok and towns, we shall come to great deep water, bigger a He reat many times than the ret iver, for you can see over he river, you know---you Tell an see fields on the other fide:

fide: but this is fo large and fo wide, you can fee nothing but water, water as far as ever you can carry your eyes. And it is not fmooth, like the river; in is all rough, like the great pot in the kitchen when it is boiling. And it is so deep of ge it would drown you if you see were as tall as two church ter steeples. I wonder what they call this great water! no there is an old, old fisheril man, fitting upon a stone readrying himself; for he is it ivery wet. I think we will eepask him. Pray, fisherman, D

what is this great water? It is the Sea: did you never hear of the sea? What! is this great water the same sa that is in our map at home? Yes, it is. Well, this is very strange! we are come to the fea that is in our map a But it is very little in the

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map. I can lay my finger over it. Yes; it is little in the map, because every thing is little in the map: the towns are little, and the rivers are little.

Pray, Fisherman, is there ap any thing on the other fide of this fea? Yes; fields, D 2

and towns, and people. Will you go and fee them? I should like to go very well; but how must we do to get over? for there is no bridge here. Do not you see those great wooden boxes that fwim upon the water? They are bigger than all papa's house.

house. There are tall poles in the middle, as high as a tree. Those are masts. See! now they are fpreading the fails. Those white sheets are the fails. They are like wings. These wooden boxes are like houses with wings. Yes, and I will tell D 3

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tell you what, little boy! they are made on purpose to go over the sea; and the wind blows them along faster than a horse can trot. What do they call them? They call them Ships. You have feen a ship in a picture. Shall we get in? What have

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those men in the ship got on? they have jackets and trowfers on, and checked shirts. They are failors. I think we will make you a failor; and then instead of breeches you must have a pair of trowsers. Do you see that failor, how he climbs up the D 4

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ropes? He is very nimble, He runs up like a monkey, Now he is at the top of the mast. How little he looks! But we must get in. Come, make hafte: they will not stay for us. What are you doing? picking up shells! We must get into a boat first,

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first, because the ship is not near enough. Now we are in.

Now we are upon the great sea. Blow, blow wind! Sail away ship! There are little rooms in the ship. Those little rooms are called cabins. Let us walk about,

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and look at the ship. Why, you cannot walk steady: I am afraid you are tipsy! Beyou cannot walk steady: I cause the ship rolls about.
But the sailors can walk steady. The sea is not like the river; it is greenish. Well; here is water enough if we should be thirsty. Yes, here y,

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is water enough; but you would not like to drink it. It is falt and bitter. You ıt. could not drink it. How alk fast we go! Now the fields the are a great way off. Now ell; we cannot fee any green we fields at all, nor any houses, nere nor any thing but the great D 6

deep water. It is water all , round as far as ever we can fee. Yes, and sky; we can fee the sky too. All sky over our heads, and all water every where round us! Do not be afraid, little boylein Blow, blow, wind! fail t away ship! I fee some t things all things in the fea at a great an distance. Those are more an ships and boats. How very ver small they are! they look ter like nut shells in a great Do pond. O, Now we are comby ing to the green fields and fail towns on the other fide of me the sea! I can see them a little.

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very plain. And here is a

little. Now I can see them

little piece of green land, with the water running all i round it. That is an island. A piece of land with water all round it, is an island. But we are not going there; we are going to the great land. m

OW

Now we are at the land, a Get out of the ship. Pray d, what country is this? This all is France. France! why d. France is in the map too. ter And pray what is the name nd of that country we came re; from, where we live, and nd. where papa lives? It is England.

England. And the deep sea is between France and England? Yes, you know it is so in the map.

O, France is a pretty place of the large grapes. I never far be

feat fuch large grapes in all my g. life. And the vines grow in the fields; they do not grow against walls, as our vines cello. And there are a great un nany people, men, and woetty nen, and little boys and and irls, finging, and dancing far bout, and fo merry! nofuc thing

thing can be like it. I think we will live here, and fend for papa and Arthur. Le us go and talk with those people. Here, you little girl! pray give us some your nice fruit. Serviten Monsieur. What do you say Se little girl? I do not under

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interfand you. I cannot help end that. Here is an old man Le cutting the vines; we will of speak to him. Pray, old ttleman, will you give us some of your fruit? We are come ten great way to fee you. say Serviteur Monsieur. What do der you fay? We do not know tan what what Serviteur Monsieur is, It is French. But we do not understand French. I cannot help that; you must go home and learn. And why do you speak French? Because this is France. Did not you know that every body speaks French in

France?

France? Ha, ha, ha! He he, he! Ho, ho, ho, ho! not Here is a foolish little boy go come a great way over the fea, and does not know that Be- every body speaks French in France. Ha, ha, ha! He, ne, he! Ho, ho, ho! ery Here is a foolish little boy come

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ce!

come a great way over the sea, and does not know that every body speaks French in France. Ha, ha ha! He he, he! Ho, ho, ho!--What shall we do, little boy? every body laughs a us; and all the little bird twitter and chirp at us. W the vill go home again. Farethat well, France! We will not h in to France again till papa He as taught us to talk French. et us get into the ship little gain. Blow, wind! fail is a way, ship! Now we are bird ot back again. Pray, papa, Wach the little boy French before wil

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legs

before he goes a great way abroad again.

You know how many legs a Horse has? Yes, to do Horse has four legs. And do you know what an and do mal is called that has four legs.

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legs? It is called a Quadruped. The Cow is a quadruped; and the Dog, and the Lion, and all the an beasts. But birds are not quadrupeds, for they have and only two legs. Some quaani drupeds have hoofs. The four Horse has hoofs; so has the

gs

Ass

Ass, and the Cow: but the Dog has no hoofs; the Dog has toes with claws; so the Dog is not hoosed, but digitated; and the Cat, and the Squirrel, and a great s many more are digitated. The hoof of the horse is whole, it is all in one piece; ha but

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but the hoof of the Cow is parted, as if it were two hoofs. That is being cloven-footed; the hoof is cloven. The Cow, and the Sheep, and the Hog, and the ed. Stag, are all cloven-footed; but the Horse, and the Ass, have whole hoofs.

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The Ass says, I am a Quadruped; I am a very patient good creature. I have hoofs, and very long ears: I bray very loud. The horse is frightened when I bray, and starts back; but

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I am very meek, and never hurt any thing. My young ones, are colts: I fuckle them. I am not fo big as a horse, and I cannot gallop fast, but I work very hard. Sometimes I carry little boys on my back, two or three at a time, and they whip E 3 me,

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me, and prick my fides, to make me go faster. I carry greens to market, and turnips, and potatoes; and fometimes I carry a great load of pans, and mugs, and pots, with which my back is almost broke; and I get nothing for my dinner but a few

a few prickly thistles, and some coarse grass from off the common: and I have no stable to go into as a Horse has; I always lie out in the fields, in the fnow, and in the rain; but I am very contented. I give milk as well as the Cow; and my milk is E4 very

very good for people that are fick, to make them well again.

Ha! what is there amongst the furze? I can see only its eyes. It has very large full eyes. It is a Hare. It

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is in its form, squatting down amongst the bushes to hide itself, for it is very fearful. The Hare is very innocent and gentle. Its colour is brown; but in countries which are very cold it turns white as fnow. It has a short bushy tail; its lip

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is

is parted, and very hairy; and it always moves its lips, Its hind egs are very long, that it may run the better. The Hare feeds upon herbs, and roots, and the bark of young trees, and green corn; and fometimes it will creep through the hedge, and steal into

into the gardens, to eat pinks and a little parsley; and it loves to play and skip about by moon-light, and to bite the tender blades of grass when the dew is upon them; but in the daytime it sleeps in its form. It sleeps with its eyes open because E 6

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because it is very fearful and timid; and when it hears the least noise it starts and pricks up its large ears. And when the huntsman sounds his horn, and the poor harmless Hare hears the Dogs coming, then it it runs away very fwiftly straight forward, stretching

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ing its legs, and leaves them all behind. But the Dogs pursue her, and she grows tired, and cannot run fo fast as at first. Then she doubles, and turns, and runs back to her form, that the hounds may not find her; but they run with their noses

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noses to the ground, smelling till they have found her out. So when she has run five or fix miles, at last she stops, and pants for breath, and can run no further. Then the hounds come up, and tear her, and kill her. Then when she

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is dead, her little limbs which moved fo fast, grow quite stiff, and cannot move at all. A fnail could go faster than a hare when it is dead: and its poor little heart, that beat so quick, is quite still and cold; and its round full eyes are dull and dim; and

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and its foft furry skin is all torn and bloody. It is good for nothing now but to be roasted.

All birds that swim in the water are web-sooted. Their toes are joined together by a skin

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a skin that grows between them; that is being webfooted; and it helps the birds to fwim well, for then their feet are like the fine of a fish.

he The Swan fays, My name s Swan: I am a large bird, arger than a goose. My bill is red, but the fides of it are black, and I have black about my eyes. My leg are dusky, but my feet and red, and I am web-footed My body is all white, white as fnow, and very beautiful. I have a very long neck. I live in rivers and r

lake

it lakes. I eat plants that grow in the water, and feeds, and eg little insects, and snails. I an do not look pretty when I ted walk upon the ground, for cannot walk well at all; ver but when I am in the water, low wimming fmoothly along, an reching my long neck, and ake dipping

dipping my white breaft,

with which I make way through the water, I am the most graceful of all birds I build my nest in a little island amongst the reeds and rushes. I make it of stick and long grass: it is very large and high. Then I lay

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my eggs, which are white. and very large, larger a great deal than a goose's egg; and I fit upon them for two months; then they are hatched, and my young ones come out. They are called cygnets. They are not white at first, but greyish.

ish. If any body was to yo come near me when I am in pi my nest, sitting upon my eggs, or when I have my young ones, I should fly at him; for I am very fierce to defend my young: and T if you were to come to take is them away, I should beat

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you down with my strong pinion, and perhaps break your arm. I live a very great while.

The Sun says, My name is Sun: I am very bright.

rise in the east; and when

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I rise then it is day. I look in at your window with my bright golden eye, and tell you when it is time to get up; and I fay, Sluggard, get up: I do not shine for you to lie in your bed and fleep, but I shine for you to get up and work, and read

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read, and walk about. I am a great traveller, I travel al over the sky; I never stop, and I never am tired. I have a crown upon my head of bright beams, and I fend forth my rays every where. I shine upon the trees and the houses, and upon the F water;

water; and every thing looks sparkling and beautiful when I shine upon it. I give you light, and I give you heat, for I make it warm. I make the fruit ripen, and the corn ripen. If I did not shine upon the fields, and upon the gardens nothing would grow. grow. I am up very high in the sky, higher than all trees, higher than the clouds, higher than every thing. I am a great way off. If I were to come nearer you I should scorch you to death, and I should burn up the grass, for I am all made of

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hot glowing fire. I have been in the fky a great while. Four years ago there was no Charles; Charles was not alive then, but there was a Sun. I was in the sky before papa and mamma were alive, a great many long years ago; and I am not grown

grown old yet. Sometimes I take off my crown of bright rays and wrap up my head. in thin filver clouds, and then you may look at me; but when there are no clouds, and I shine with all my brightness at noon-day, you cannot look at me, for I F 3 should

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should dazzle your eyes, and make you blind. Only the Eagle can look at me then: the Eagle with his strong piercing eye can gaze upon me always. And when I am going to rife in the morning and make it day, the Lark flies up in the sky

to meet me, and fings sweetly in the air: and the Cock crows loud to tell every body that I am coming: but the Owl and the Bat fly away when they fee me, and hide themselves in old walls and hollow trees; and the Lion and the Tiger go into their dens

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dens and caves, where they fleep all the day. I shine in all places. I shine in England, and in France, and in Spain, and all over the earth. I am the most beautiful and glorious creature that can be feen in the whole world.

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The Moon fays My name is Moon; I shine to give you light in the night when the fun is fet. I am very beautiful and white like filver. You may look at me always, for I am not fo bright

bright as to dazzle your eyes, and I never fcorch you. I am mild and gentle. I let even the little glowworms shine, which are quite dark by day. The stars shine all round me, but I am larger and brighter than the stars, and I look like a large pearl amongst

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amongst a great many small sparkling diamonds. When you are afleep I shine through your curtains with my gentle beams, and I fay Sleep on, poor little tired boy, I will not disturb you. The nightingale fings to me, who fings better than all the birds

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birds of the air. She fits upon a thorn and fings melodioufly all night long, while the dew lies upon the grafs, and every thing is still and filent all around.

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